



State of New Hampshire  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095  
(603) 271-3406 FAX (603) 271-7894



June 24, 2002  
**Letter of Deficiency**  
DAM #248.05

Mr. Peter Austin  
1224 Battle Street  
Webster, NH 03303

RE: Winnipocket Lake Dam, Webster

Dear Mr. Austin

The Department of Environmental Services, Dam Bureau (DES) consistently strives to enhance the safety of dams in New Hampshire through its dam safety program. One of the many instruments that plays a part in reaching this goal is our inspection program. DES is forwarding this correspondence to you to advise you that in accordance with RSA 482:12 and Env-Wr 502.02, an inspection of the subject dam was conducted on December 31, 2001. During this visual inspection and/or file review, the following deficiencies were observed:

- The overflow spillway was measured to be 8 feet wide and 1 foot high;
2. The left and right embankments are heavily overgrown with brush and trees;
  3. The left embankment crest is uneven and eroded. The crest has been lowered immediately to the left of the spillway;
  4. There is beaver debris in the discharge channel immediately downstream from the spillway potentially reducing discharge capacity;
  5. The left downstream spillway discharge channel stone masonry wall is partially eroded;
  6. There is no operations and maintenance plan on file;
  7. The height of the dam was measured to be 6.5 feet, not 5.5 as listed on the data sheet; and
  8. The dam does not have adequate discharge capacity to pass the design event with a minimum of 1 foot of freeboard.

DES believes that the above deficiencies can be corrected by performing the following items by the indicated schedule:

**November 2, 2003:**

1. Remove all trees located on the embankments and within 10 feet of the abutments and toe of the dam;
2. Re-grade the crest of the dam to maintain a flat even surface and establish a hearty grass cover;

Letter of Deficiency  
Dam #248.05  
June 24, 2002  
pg. 2

3. Repair the left downstream stone masonry wall;
4. Remove the debris from the discharge channel;
5. Prepare and submit to DES a written operational procedure plan. The plan should describe the control of impoundment levels, monitoring and maintenance procedures, and identify emergency contact personnel; and
6. Submit plans to increase the discharge capacity of the dam to pass the design event with a minimum of 1 foot of freeboard.

As a result of this inspection and subsequent file review, DES has reclassified the dam from a non-hazard "AA" to a minimum hazard "A" dam. The change in classification is a result of the dam exceeding the height and storage requirements outlined in Env-Wr 101.03 (a). The dam is greater than 6 ft in height and has a storage of over 50 acre feet. The inspection cycle of every six years will remain the same. You will be responsible for an annual dam registration fee of \$100 which is due every January 1st.

DES is requesting that you complete and submit the attached "Intent to Complete Repairs" form, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, that will provide for correction of the identified deficiencies by the date(s) indicated above. If you believe changes to the items of work or dates are necessary, please make the changes directly on the form and provide a brief explanation. We have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope for you to return this form.

Our intent in sending you this correspondence is to make you aware of items that DES believes warrant your attention to insure the continued safe operation of your dam. It is our hope that, through the submittal of the attached form and a commitment to keeping a well-maintained dam, you will voluntarily comply with the requested items of work. If we do not receive the intent form or a similarly adequate written reply, we will assume that you are in agreement with our findings and recommendations and DES will carry out follow-up inspections accordingly.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Letter of Deficiency or would like to be present at future inspections, please contact me at 271-3406, or write to the Water Division at the address listed on the top of the previous page.

Sincerely,  
  
Jeffrey M. Blarney  
Dam Safety Engineer

Attachments: Env-Wr 101.03 (a), Guideline for an O&M plan, DB13

cc: Gretchen Rule ✓

Town of Webster

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